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PROPERTY OF THE YEAR

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## --- HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE ---

FARMERS' RECEIPTS FROM THE SALE OF FARM PRODUCTS in the first three months of this year reached a total of \$406,586,000, an increase of almost seven per cent over the same period of 1948.

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FARM PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS averaged fractionally higher in May than in April, but 1.3 per cent above the same month last year.

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THE COMPOSITE INDEX NUMBER OF COMMODITIES AND SERVICES USED BY FARMERS, inclusive of living costs, rose 3.5 points between January and April this year to reach an all-time high for the series. The index for April this year was 191.2 as compared with 187.7 for January, and 184.2 for April last year.

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PRODUCTION OF MARGARINE IN CANADA during the first six months of this year amounted to 32,485,000 pounds.

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STOCKS OF CANADIAN WHEAT IN STORE or in transit in North America at midnight on June 29 amounted to 70,343,000 bushels compared with 75,036,000 on June 23, and 48,340,000 on the corresponding date last year.

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TREND OF EMPLOYMENT IN THE MAJOR INDUSTRIAL DIVISIONS was upward at the first of May.

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FACTORY SHIPMENTS OF CANADIAN-MADE MOTOR VEHICLES in May were maintained at the high levels of previous months this year, the total standing at 26,708 units compared with 26,685 in the preceding month, 25,566 in March, and 21,368 in May last year.

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BEER PRODUCTION IN CANADA rose sharply in May over the preceding month and was well above the total for May 1948, while production of new spirits increased over April but was lower than in May last year.

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CIGARETTE RELEASES IN MAY rose to an all-time monthly high figure of 1,529 million, comparing with 1,342 million in April and 1,265 million in May last year.

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CANADIAN PRODUCTION OF CRUDE PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GASOLINE rose to an all-time monthly high in April, the rise in the month being principally due to sharply increased output in the Leduc and Redwater fields of Alberta. Production from Turner Valley was lower.

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CROP PROSPECTS LESS  
FAVOURABLE AT END OF JUNE

Crop prospects for all of Canada's more important field crops, except oats and sugar beets, were less favourable at June 30 this year than a year ago, according to the report on numerical condition of field crops at that date by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. While conditions varied in different parts of the country, the all-Canada prospects for all major crops were also for yields below the long-time average.

For wheat, the numerical condition, expressed as a percentage of the long-time average yield, was placed at 72 per cent at June 30, as compared with 95 per cent at June 30 last year. Adverse temperature and moisture conditions in the fall wheat belt of Ontario and in much of the spring wheat area of western Canada account largely for the low level of this year's wheat condition figure.

The dry, hot spring and lack of pre-seasonal rainfall in the major rye-growing areas of the West affected the development of the rye crop to such an extent that at 54 per cent, this crop had the lowest over-all condition figure of any Canadian field crop this year. At the same date last year the figure was 78 per cent.

The numerical figure for oats stands at 81 per cent as compared with 80 a year ago; barley, 76 compared with 78; peas, 81 (90); beans, 89 (96); buckwheat, 86 (96); mixed grains, 76 (96); flaxseed, 80 (83); corn for husking, 90 (94); potatoes, 89 (95); turnips, etc., 83 (93); hay and clover, 76 (94); alfalfa, 68 (92); fodder corn, 88 (94); sugar beets, 98 (90); pastures, 80 (97).

The spring wheat condition figures for Alberta and Saskatchewan based on weather factors indicated significantly poorer yields in prospect at June 30 this year than at the same time a year ago. In these two provinces the wheat condition was 33 and 23 points respectively below the condition indicated at June 30 a year ago. Manitoba's wheat condition while down five points from last year was still above the long-time average.

Prospects for feed grains, fodder and pasture crops based on conditions at June 30, were not good in the provinces of Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta and concern over next winter's feed supplies is already being expressed in the affected areas.

In the Prairie Provinces, the condition of the principal cereal crops at the end of June was reported as follows, figures for June 30, 1948 being in brackets: Manitoba -- wheat, 108 (113); oats, 95 (88); barley, 94 (87); rye, 90 (92); flaxseed, 91 (90). Saskatchewan -- wheat, 70 (93); oats, 82 (68); barley, 74 (72); rye, 45 (73); flaxseed, 71 (75). Alberta -- wheat, 61 (94); oats, 62 (76); barley, 61 (76); rye, 53 (85); flaxseed, 65 (82). (1)

STOCKS OF RAW AND REFINED SUGAR

Refinery stocks of raw and refined sugar were higher on June 18 than on the same date last year. According to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, raw sugar stocks amounted to 129,952,100 pounds as compared with 124,069,400 on the corresponding date last year, while the stocks of refined sugar totalled 226,026,700 pounds as against 119,219,100 a year earlier.

During the four weeks ended June 18th, 92,645,300 pounds of refined were manufactured compared with 88,715,900 in the similar period last year. Receipts of raw sugar during the period totalled 133,360,000 pounds compared with 93,523,000, and meltings and sales 96,810,700 pounds against 92,773,000.

CROP CONDITIONS IN PRAIRIE PROVINCES

Based on present conditions a good crop is now expected in Manitoba but drought has adversely affected crops over such wide areas in Saskatchewan and Alberta that below normal yields are anticipated for these provinces, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

While crops in Manitoba generally are making favourable progress, rain is now required, particularly in the south-eastern, south-central and Portage-Brandon areas, with Morden reporting near-drought conditions. The wheat, early oats and barley are nearly all headed and stands are heavy in most districts.

A serious outbreak of grain aphid has occurred in the south-western part of the province and late crops of oats and barley have been considerably damaged, while some late wheat is also affected. Chemicals may give control providing sufficient spraying equipment and insecticides can be made available in time. Boot webworms are active and painted lady caterpillars are infesting sunflower crops around Altona. Chemical sprays are giving good control in both these instances. Hailstorms on June 29, July 7 and July 8 caused light to heavy damage in scattered local areas of the province. The hay crop is turning out well, except in the Winnipeg and interlake areas.

In north-central and northern districts of Saskatchewan, the moisture situation was improved by fairly general rains during the past week. Elsewhere, however, there were only light, scattered showers and with temperatures slightly above normal crop deterioration was general, ranging from moderate in east-central areas to rapid in the south-west. Immediate rains are required to prevent further deterioration in east-central and south-central districts, while little recovery can be expected in the south-west. Light to heavy grasshopper damage has occurred throughout most of the drier area but drought remains the predominant factor in the poor crop outlook.

Alberta has experienced another week of hot, dry weather and rain is urgently needed throughout the province. Crop conditions are generally poor from a line east and north of Coutts to Stettler and west to Lacombe. From Calgary to Red Deer conditions are only fair. Favourable prospects for grain and hay crops are still reported in the south-west and in the Peace River area, but the hay crop outlook throughout most of the province remains only poor to fair. (2)

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on June 29 amounted to 70,343,000 bushels compared with 75,036,000 on June 23, and 48,340,000 on the corresponding date last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Farmers in the Prairie Provinces marketed 1,889,300 bushels of wheat during the week ending June 29 as compared with 2,815,900 in the corresponding week last year, bringing the cumulative total for the crop year to date to 279,457,300 bushels as against 233,752,500 in the like period of the preceding crop year.

The following quantities of coarse grains were also delivered from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending June 29, totals for the same week last year being in brackets: oats, 1,386,700 (850,100) bushels; barley, 677,100 (663,600); rye, 299,700 (4,000); flaxseed, 101,600 (84,800).

Overseas export clearances of wheat during the week ending June 29 totalled 5,325,500 bushels compared with 2,352,900 in the same week last year, and in the cumulative period, 158,927,600 bushels compared with 119,799,000. (3)

FARM CASH INCOME HIGHER  
IN FIRST QUARTER THIS YEAR

Farmers' receipts from the sale of farm products in the first three months of this year reached a total of \$406,386,000, showing an increase of almost seven per cent over the same period of 1948, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Cash income from the sale of field crops at \$133,878,000 for the first quarter of 1949, was up more than 20 per cent over last year's corresponding total of \$108,721,000. The increase can be largely attributable to increased marketings of the five principal grains and a higher price for wheat.

Income from the sale of livestock and livestock products totalling \$264,776,000 for the January-March period of this year is relatively unchanged from that of the same period of 1948. With the exception of cattle and calves, the 1949 marketings of livestock were down this year as against last. Prices, on the other hand, were without exception, higher than a year ago with the index of livestock prices indicating an overall increase of more than 20 per cent.

Cash income from the sale of farm products was higher for all provinces except Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick. Totals follow by provinces with 1948 figures in brackets (in thousands): Prince Edward Island, \$4,538 (\$5,298); Nova Scotia, \$7,795 (\$7,170); New Brunswick, \$9,635 (\$10,295); Quebec, \$66,023 (\$61,688); Ontario, \$152,440 (\$143,243); Manitoba, \$26,509 (\$24,328); Saskatchewan, \$45,301 (\$40,477); Alberta, \$76,546 (\$70,906); British Columbia, \$17,599 (\$16,601). (4)

FARM PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS  
SLIGHTLY HIGHER IN MAY

Farm prices of agricultural products averaged fractionally higher in May than in April, according to the index numbers compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. At the May level, the all-Canada average was 1.3 per cent higher than in the same month last year, but slightly under the average for the year 1948.

For May, the index, on the base 1935-39=100, is estimated by the Bureau at 250.8 as compared with a revised estimate of 250.7 for April and 247.6 for May last year. The average for 1948 was 252.6, and the peak reached was 264.1 in August last year.

As compared with April, higher prices for grains and livestock offset lower prices for dairy products, potatoes and vegetables. As compared with a year ago, higher prices for livestock, fruits, tobacco, poultry and eggs more than offset declines in the prices of coarse grains, dairy products, potatoes, vegetables and furs.

In May, provincial indexes for Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta were higher as compared with April, while declines were shown in the remaining provinces. Indexes for each of the Maritime Provinces and Quebec were also lower than a year earlier, while those for all other provinces were higher. (5)

PRICE INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES  
AND SERVICES USED BY FARMERS

The composite index number of commodities and services used by farmers, inclusive of living costs, rose 3.5 points between January and April this year to reach an all-time high for the series, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The index for April this year was 191.2 as compared with 187.7 for January, the advance being due largely to a seasonal increase in wage rates. This compares with an index level of 184.2 for April last year.

The farm wage rates index increased from 352.2 to 379.6 between January and April. As a result of higher rates of pay in Western Canada the wage index rose slightly above the level of the preceding April.

The index for farm equipment and materials stood at 180.5 for April as compared with 180.3 for January, and 172.9 for April, 1948. Three of the eight sub-groups moved higher, while three declined and two were unchanged between January and April. However, all groups had advanced as compared with April, 1948 except seed, which declined from 241.2 to 213.2, or approximately 11 per cent.

Farm family living costs increased slightly to 173.5 as against 171.8 for January, and 163.7 last year. Of the six sub-groups included in this index, only food showed a decline between January and April, while the remaining five groups moved from 0.4 to 7.1 points higher during the same period. (6)

#### STOCKS OF DAIRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS

Stocks of creamery butter in Canada were somewhat higher on July 1, amounting to 42,150,000 pounds as compared with 23,674,000 on June 1 and 30,701,000 on the corresponding date last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Cheese stocks amounted to 32,574,000 pounds compared with 29,153,000 on June 1 and 41,404,000 a year earlier.

Stocks of evaporated whole milk held by or for manufacturers on July 1 amounted to 46,804,000 pounds as against 32,920,000 at the beginning of June and 16,395,000 on the corresponding date last year, while the holdings of skim milk powder were 10,756,000 pounds compared with 13,383,000 on June 1, and 9,850,000 a year earlier.

July 1 stocks of eggs, shell and frozen, were 877,000 cases as against 839,000 on June 1, and 1,143,000 on July 1 last year. Holdings of poultry meat totalled 6,560,000 pounds compared with 5,607,000 on June 1, and 10,765,000 a year ago. (7)

#### BUTTER AND CHEESE PRODUCTION

Reversing the upward trend of recent months, creamery butter production fell almost eight per cent in June to 41,264,000 pounds from 44,821,000 in the corresponding month last year. The cumulative total for the first half of this year was up slightly more than one per cent to 123,286,000 pounds from 121,866,000 in the similar period of 1948.

Cheddar cheese production in June rose 12 per cent, amounting to 20,353,000 pounds as compared with 18,094,000. In the January-June period, 41,560,000 pounds were produced compared with 34,564,000 a year ago, an increase of 20 per cent. Output of concentrated milk products in the month amounted to 49,844,000 pounds against 56,747,000 in the corresponding month last year, down 12 per cent. Production for the year-to-date was 187,932,000 pounds against 180,349,000, an increase of four per cent. (8)

#### PRODUCTION AND STOCKS OF MARGARINE IN CANADA

Production of margarine in Canada during the first six months of this year amounted to 32,485,000 pounds, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Output in June totalled 6,734,000 pounds as compared with the revised figure for May of 6,869,000, April 7,149,000, March 7,349,000, February 3,354,000, and January 1,030,000 pounds.

Stocks of margarine held in Canada, excluding Newfoundland, at the beginning of July amounted to 2,037,000 pounds as compared with the revised total of 1,099,000 at June 1. Holdings were as follows by regions, totals for June 1 being in brackets (figures in thousands): Maritime Provinces, 120 (53) pounds; Ontario, 1,348 (772); Manitoba, 183 (47); Saskatchewan, 173 (125); Alberta, 58 (14); and British Columbia, 155 (88).

MEAT STOCKS LOWER ON JULY 1 Stocks of meat held by packers, wholesale butchers and cold storage warehouses were lower on July 1, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Total stocks amounted to 65,235,000 pounds compared with 70,805,000 on June 1, and 104,118,000 on the corresponding date last year.

Holdings of frozen meat were down to 37,697,000 pounds from 41,728,000 on June 1, and 69,458,000 on July 1, 1948. Stocks of fresh meats were lower at 11,700,000 pounds compared with 13,142,000 on June 1 and 14,534,000 a year ago, and cured meat stocks fell to 15,838,000 pounds from 15,935,000 on June 1, and 20,126,000 last year.

Lard stocks at 4,061,000 pounds were higher than the 3,790,000 pounds in storage on June 1 and last year's corresponding figure of 4,044,000 pounds. (9)

STOCKS OF FISH ON JULY 1 Cold storage holdings of fish on July 1 amounted to 41,006,000 pounds, up from the June 1 figure of 35,188,000 pounds, and above the 35,749,000 pounds held on the corresponding date last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Stocks on the latest date comprised 38,157,000 pounds frozen fresh and 2,849,000 pounds frozen smoked.

There was an increase over a year ago in the stocks of other sea fish and inland fish, but holdings of cod, haddock, salmon, and sea herring were lower. Totals follow by kinds, those for July 1 last year being in brackets: cod, 5,955,000 (6,660,000) pounds; haddock, 1,464,000 (2,321,000); salmon, 2,815,000 (2,879,000); sea herring, 5,824,000 (7,056,000); other sea fish, 14,673,000 (14,596,000); and inland fish, 6,095,000 (2,237,000). (10)

STOCKS OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES ON JULY 1 Stocks of fruit, frozen and in preservatives, were higher on July 1, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Total stocks amounted to 30,014,000 pounds as compared with 27,594,000 on June 1 and 28,913,000 on the corresponding date last year. Stocks of vegetables, frozen and in brine, were down in both comparisons, amounting to 5,204,000 pounds compared with 6,423,000 on June 1 and 6,623,000 a year ago.

Storage stocks of Canadian vegetables were all increased over last year with the exception of carrots and parsnips. Potatoes were up from 4,003 tons to 6,461, onions from 267 tons to 522, beets from seven tons to 104, cabbages from 185 tons to 207, and celery from nil to 4,231 crates. Stocks of carrots fell from 435 to 117 tons, and parsnips from 17 to four tons.

There were 93 tons of imported potatoes on July 1 as compared with 79 a year earlier. Stocks of imported onions totalled 453 tons compared with 513, carrots 316 tons (945); cabbages 83 tons (90); and celery 4,191 crates (91). (11)

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES UP SEVEN PER CENT IN JUNE Department store sales averaged seven per cent higher in June than in the corresponding month last year, gains ranging from four per cent in Ontario to 13 per cent in the Maritimes, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The advance in Quebec was five per cent, Manitoba nine per cent, Saskatchewan nine per cent, Alberta 11 per cent, and British Columbia eight per cent.

COST-OF-LIVING INDEXES FOR EIGHT REGIONAL CITIES HIGHER AT JUNE 1

Substantially firmer prices for foods, notably seasonal increases for meats and vegetables, were responsible for increases in cost-of-living indexes for each of the eight regional cities between May 2 and June 1, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Small scattered advances occurred for clothing and miscellaneous items, while homefurnishings and services declined at most centres. Rentals and fuel and lighting, the two remaining groups, were unchanged.

The composite index for Montreal rose 2.9 points between May 2 and June 1 to 164.6; Saint John, 1.2 to 157.2; Toronto, 1.1 to 156.1; Halifax, 1.0 to 153.4; Vancouver, 0.9 to 162.0; Saskatoon, 0.8 to 162.5; Winnipeg, 0.7 to 155.4; and Edmonton, 0.7 to 155.8. In the same period, the Dominion index gained 1.0 to 159.2.

The following table compares the latest city and Dominion cost-of-living indexes:

	<u>June 1, 1948</u>	<u>May 2, 1949</u>	<u>June 1, 1949</u>
	(August 1939=100)		
Halifax .....	149.1	152.4	153.4
Saint John .....	152.3	156.0	157.2
Montreal .....	158.4	161.7	164.6
Toronto .....	151.6	155.0	156.1
Winnipeg .....	148.6	154.7	155.4
Saskatoon .....	157.2	161.7	162.5
Edmonton .....	149.0	155.1	155.8
Vancouver .....	154.3	161.1	162.0
Dominion .....	153.1	158.2	159.2

The city indexes show changes in living costs for each city and compare the extent of the rise or fall between cities. They do not, however, compare the actual level of living costs. Indexes shown do not include data covering Newfoundland.

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES

July 7, 1949    June 30, 1949    June 9, 1949

(1935-39=100)

Investors' Price Index

(106 Common Stocks) .....	102.2	100.1	99.3
82 Industrials .....	95.6	93.0	92.0
16 Utilities .....	111.3	110.2	109.3
8 Banks .....	129.7	130.6	132.0

Mining Stock Price Index

(30 Stocks) .....	84.1	82.4	77.3
25 Golds .....	70.2	69.1	65.5
5 Base Metals .....	110.6	107.7	99.6

MOTOR VEHICLE SHIPMENTS IN MAY Factory shipments of Canadian-made motor vehicles in May were maintained at the high levels of previous months this year, the total standing at 26,708 units compared with 26,685 in the preceding month, 25,566 in March, and 21,368 in May last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The cumulative total for the first five months of this year was 110,019 units compared with 105,820 in the like period last year.

Of the month's total, shipments for sale in Canada numbered 23,339 as compared with 23,739 in April, and 17,151 in May last year, and in the five months to 98,079 compared with 84,543. Shipments in May of vehicles for export amounted to 3,369 units compared with 2,946 in the preceding month and 4,217 a year ago, the five-month total standing at 11,940 units compared with 21,277.

May shipments of passenger cars totalled 16,514 units compared with 17,432 in the preceding month and 10,736 in May last year, bringing the five-month total to 67,462 units compared with 60,189. May shipments of commercial vehicles amounted to 10,194 units compared with 9,253 in April and 10,632 in May a year ago. In the five months, 42,557 commercial vehicles were shipped compared with 45,631. (12)

CRUDE PETROLEUM OUTPUT AT NEW MONTHLY HIGH IN APRIL Continuing the gains of earlier months, Canadian production of crude petroleum and natural gasoline rose to an all-time monthly high in April. The rise in the month was principally due to sharply increased output in the Leduc and Redwater fields of Alberta. Production from Turner Valley was lower.

According to figures compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, output in April amounted to 1,845,400 barrels as compared with the previous peak of 1,748,400 attained in March, and was more than double the April, 1948 figure of 795,700 barrels. During the first four months of this year, output totalled 6,393,400 barrels as against 3,169,600 in the similar period last year.

Alberta accounted for 1,714,000 barrels in April compared with 702,700 a year earlier. Leduc's output rose sharply to 893,900 barrels from 179,600, Redwater to 343,500 barrels from nil, and Lloydminster to 68,000 barrels from 37,200. Crude output from Turner Valley dropped to 311,900 barrels against 386,700.

The month's output from wells in Saskatchewan amounted to 74,900 barrels compared with 37,800 a year ago, Ontario 18,600 barrels compared with 13,500, New Brunswick 1,670 (1,690), and Northwest Territories 36,300 (40,100).

In April, 4,372,200 M cubic feet of natural gas were produced compared with 5,896,500 in the preceding month and 5,087,400 in the corresponding month last year. Output in Alberta totalled 3,478,700 M cubic feet compared with 4,981,800 M a month earlier; Ontario, 826,400 M (825,900 M); New Brunswick, 36,100 M (35,700 M); and Saskatchewan, 30,900 M (53,000 M). (13)

SALES OF ELECTRIC STORAGE BATTERIES Sales of electric storage batteries and parts by principal Canadian producers were valued at \$960,500 in May as compared with \$1,055,000 in the same month last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the first five months of this year, output was valued at \$6,131,200 compared with \$5,729,600 in the like 1948 period. (14)



OUTPUT OF STEEL INGOTS IN MAY Canadian production of steel ingots in May was substantially higher than in the preceding month and only a shade under the all-time monthly high recorded in March. Reflecting the growth in output, cumulative figures for the first five months advanced 5.4 per cent over the same period of 1948.

According to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, the month's output of steel ingots amounted to 283,800 tons compared with 260,300 in April, 287,900 in March, and 279,700 in May last year. Total for the five months ending May was 1,357,000 tons compared with 1,287,300 in the like period of 1948.

The daily average output for May this year was 9,155 tons compared with 8,677 in April, 9,286 in March, and 9,022 in May last year. The daily average output for the cumulative period was 8,987 tons against 8,469 in the same period of 1948. (15)

BEER PRODUCTION IN MAY Beer production in Canada rose sharply in May over the preceding month and was well above the total for May 1948, while the production of new spirits increased over April but was lower than in May last year, according to figures released in this week's supplement to the Canadian Statistical Review. Output of both during the first five months of this year was under the corresponding period of 1948.

Output of beer in May amounted to 692,300 barrels (of 25 gallons) compared with 581,700 in April and 611,000 in May last year. Cumulative total for the five months ending May was 2,674,900 barrels compared with 2,702,500 in the like period of 1948.

May production of new spirits was 1,940,000 proof gallons as against 1,870,000 in April and 2,260,000 in May last year. Five-month total was 9,770,000 proof gallons as compared with 12,160,000. Spirits bottled totalled 720,000 gallons in May against 680,000 in April and 540,000 last year, and in the five months, 3,500,000 gallons compared with 3,360,000.

Stocks of distilled liquor at the end of May rose to 73,650,000 proof gallons from 72,970,000 at the end of April and 68,340,000 on the same date last year.

CIGARETTE RELEASES AT HIGH LEVEL IN MAY Cigarette releases in May rose to an all-time monthly high figure of 1,529 million, comparing with 1,342 million in April and 1,265 million in May last year. Cumulative total of releases for the first five months of this year was 6,717 million as compared with 6,385 million in the same period of 1948.

Releases of cigars in May increased to 18.4 million from 17.0 million in April and 14.2 million in May last year, bringing the cumulative total for the five months ending May to 89.1 million compared with 88.6 million last year.

Cut tobacco released in the month amounted to 2,237,000 pounds compared with 2,074,000 in April and 1,974,000 a year ago, while plug tobacco totalled 247,000 pounds compared with 168,000 in April and 199,000 a year ago.

Snuff increased in the month to 92,000 pounds from 85,000 in April and 77,000 a year ago.

EMPLOYMENT SEASONALLY  
HIGHER AT FIRST OF MAY

The trend of employment in the major industrial divisions was upward at the first of May as compared with April 1, advances being shown in Quebec and the four western provinces, and declines in the remaining provinces. The increase was seasonal in character and was accompanied by a small rise in the sums disbursed in weekly salaries and wages.

According to information furnished the Dominion Bureau of Statistics by 20,204 leading establishments, their staffs at May 1 rose 0.6 per cent over April 1. Based on the 1926 average as 100, the index number of employment stood at 188.6 -- a new high for the time of year -- as compared with 187.6 for April 1, and 186.5 for May 1, 1948.

Industrially, there were general increases in employment in all major groups except logging, in which there was a seasonal loss of 31.4 per cent. The gains in manufacturing and mining were slight, in each case amounting only to 0.1 per cent. These advances were below-average for May 1. The additions to the staffs reported in the other divisions ranged from 1.3 per cent in trade to two per cent in communications and 9.7 per cent in construction.

The reported earnings averaged \$43.16 per person in recorded employment in the week of May 1 as compared with \$43.35 at April 1 and \$39.70 in the corresponding week last year. (16)

CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS

Carloadings of revenue freight for the holiday week ended July 2 declined to 62,070 cars compared with 71,064 in the same week last year and 68,766 in 1947, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. As the holiday was followed by a Saturday this year, it is likely that loadings were concentrated in the days Monday to Thursday, as many firms granted employees the advantage of the long week-end. (17)

HIRING AND SEPARATION RATES  
IN CERTAIN INDUSTRIES

Overall hiring and separation rates for all industries have shown a general decline during the period from March 1947 to February 1949, covered by a new report on hirings and separations, based on data obtained by the Unemployment Insurance Commission, issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Reflecting the normal seasonal fluctuations in employment the report shows generally higher rates of hirings than of separations during the spring and summer months; a tendency towards equality in the Fall and early Winter; and generally higher rates of separations than of hirings during the Winter and early Spring.

Hirings in Canadian industry were smaller in proportion to the average number of workers on payrolls during January and February this year than in the corresponding months of 1948, amounting to six per cent in January compared with seven per cent and four per cent in February and five a year earlier. Separations were at the same rate of seven per cent both in January this year and last, but were down to six per cent of the average number on payroll in February this year as against seven per cent in February, 1948. These figures compare with eight per cent for both hirings and separations in March, 1947, first month of the period covered.

Highest proportion of hirings during the 12 months, March 1948 to February 1949, was 10 per cent in May and June, while the highest for separations was nine per cent in September and December. (18)

EXPRESS COMPANIES IN 1948 Gross operating receipts of express companies in Canada climbed to a new record figure in 1948. Operating expenses and express privileges, however, rose more sharply, and after all deductions, net incorporated income showed a debit for the year of \$2,698,000 as compared with a debit of \$1,188,000 in 1947, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

The year's operating receipts totalled \$46,809,000 compared with \$42,315,000 in 1947, a gain of 10.6 per cent. Operating expenses totalled \$30,398,000 compared with \$25,770,000 a year earlier, an increase of 17.9 per cent, while express privileges paid to carriers amounted to \$18,786,000 compared with \$17,650,000.

The value of all financial paper handled increased to \$164,224,000 from \$155,403,000 in the preceding year. Taxes rose 16.2 per cent from \$312,000 in 1947 to \$363,000.

Full-time employees numbered 8,525, up from 8,017 in 1947, while the total salaries and wages bill for part-time and full-time employees was \$22,212,000 against \$18,309,000, an increase of over 21 per cent. Commissions to others were \$2,157,000 compared with \$1,996,000 in 1947. (19)

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PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION OF MILK Trends in Canadian dairy production for the last few years, as indicated by figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, are towards the use of slightly less milk for factory products, and the bottling of more milk for the fluid trade.

In 1944 about 56 per cent of the total milk production of Canada was used for factory products. In 1948 it had fallen to 53 per cent. Fluid milk, on the other hand, which had taken 22 per cent of the total milk supply in 1944, absorbed over 24 per cent in 1948. The percentage of milk used in the manufacture of concentrated milk products rose from 3.44 in 1944 to 4.76 in 1948.

Total milk production of Canada in 1948 amounted to 16,645,000 pounds, a decline of approximately 500,000,000 pounds from 1947 and about 1,000,000,000 pounds less than in 1944. The amount of milk used in factory products was reduced from 9,916,519,000 pounds in 1944 to 9,210,818,000 in 1947 and to 8,806,769,000 in 1948. Fluid sales in 1944 were 3,912,476,000 pounds, rising to 4,162,539,000 in 1947, but were down to 4,015,732,000 in 1948. (Mem. 1)

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COOPERAGE INDUSTRY The factory selling value of products turned out by establishments engaged wholly or principally in the manufacture of wooden barrels, casks, kegs, tubs and similar products in 1948 was \$6,591,000, an increase of slightly more than 25 per cent over the preceding year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The cost of materials used in the process of manufacture was \$4,017,000, a gain of almost 19 per cent. (Mem. 2)

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EXCELSIOR INDUSTRY IN 1947 The gross value of products manufactured by establishments engaged wholly or principally in the manufacture of wood excelsior and excelsior products such as pads, mats and wrappers, amounted in 1947 to \$630,700 as compared with \$581,900 in the preceding year, an increase of almost nine per cent. Eleven factories were in operation in 1947 giving employment to 172 workers who received \$242,600 in salaries and wages, an advance of slightly more than 18 per cent over 1946. (Mem. 3)

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RELEASED DURING THE WEEK -- (The numbers in this list correspond with those at the end of news items, indicating the report on which an item is based).

Reports and Bulletins

1. Condition of Field Crops at June 30 (10 cents).
2. Telegraphic Crop Report, Prairie Provinces (10 cents).
3. Canadian Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
4. Canadian Farm Income, January-March, 1949 (10 cents).
5. Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products, May (10 cents).
6. Price Index Numbers of Commodities and Services Used by Farmers, April, 1949 (10 cents).
7. Stocks of Dairy and Poultry Products, July 1 (10 cents).
8. Dairy Factory Production, June (10 cents).
9. Stocks of Meat, Lard and Tallow, July 1 (10 cents).
10. Cold Storage Holdings of Fish, July 1 (10 cents).
11. Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables, July 1 (10 cents).
12. Motor Vehicle Shipments, May (10 cents).
13. Crude Petroleum, Natural Gas, and Manufactured Gas, April (10 cents).
14. Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries, May (10 cents).
15. Monthly Report on Steel Ingots, May (10 cents).
16. Employment Situation Together with Payrolls, May (10 cents).
17. Carloadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
18. Hiring and Separation Rates in Certain Industries, March 1947 to February 1949 (25 cents).
19. Express Statistics, 1948 (10 cents).
20. Families by Marital Status Showing Size and Composition, Prairie Provinces (10 cents).
21. Trade of Canada: Imports Entered for Consumption, April (25 cents).
22. Canadian National Railways, 1923-1948 (25 cents).
23. Canadian Pacific Railway Company, 1923-1948 (25 cents).
24. Sugar Situation, May 21 to June 18 (10 cents).

Memoranda

1. Dairying Statistics of Canada, 1948 (25 cents).
  2. The Cooperage Industry, 1947 (10 cents).
  3. Excelsior, 1947 (10 cents).
  4. Bookkeepers' and Poultrymen's Supply Industry, 1947 (10 cents).
  5. Coffins and Caskets, 1947 (10 cents).
  6. The Woodon Refrigerator Industry, 1947 (10 cents).
  7. Box, Basket and Crate Industry, 1947 (10 cents).
  8. Woodenware Industry, 1947 (10 cents).
  9. Lasts, Trees and Wooden Shoefindings, 1947 (10 cents).
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